

REMARKS

1. Drawings

The originally filed drawings FIGS. 2 through 4 were objected to as indicated in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the above Office action. The applicant submits herewith the corrected FIGS. 2 through 4 believed to address all of the cited objections. Approval of the amended and new formal set of drawings is respectfully requested.

2. Specification

The specification is objected to because of the informalities stated in paragraph 4 of the Office action. The applicant hereby amends the above paragraphs of the specification to overcome these objections. Note that the reference numbers in FIGS. 2 and 3 that were not mentioned in the description have been inserted into the suitable portions in the description.

In view of the above amendments, it is respectfully requested that the amended specification be approved.

3. Claims

Claims 3 through 5 remain pending. Claims 1 and 2 have been cancelled.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claims 1 and 4 were objected to because of the informalities stated in paragraph 5 of the Office action. Claim 1 is hereby canceled, and claim 4 is hereby amended to replace the term "part" with --party--.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejected claims 3 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Houde et al. (U.S. Pat. 5,978,678).

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw this rejection because the invention of Houde et al. does not describe the claimed invention and fails to indicate the subject matter of the present invention claimed in claim 3.

The Examiner asserted that Houde et al. discloses the steps b) and c) claimed in claim 3 in column 2 lines 22-40, column 5 line 22-column 6 line 4, and column 6 lines 24-53 of Houde et al. However, the Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to carefully review the subject matter of the claimed invention. The step b) is performed not at the HLR 22 or 42, but at the MSC. Furthermore, the step b) is performed not at the MSC 24 of the home system, but MSC 34 of the visited system. Further, the step c) is performed not at HLR but at the MSC. This means that the international routing number of the present invention is generated not from the HLR 22 but from the MSC 34, so that the home HLR 22 does not need to generate the international routing number.

Also, claim 5 stands rejected as being anticipated by Houde et al. The Applicant respectfully submits that claim 5, which depends upon claim 3, is not anticipated by the cited reference for the same reasons as discussed above. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection to these claims is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C § 103

The Examiner rejected claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Houde et al. in view of Koster (U.S. Pat. 6,259,914 B1).

The Applicant respectfully submits that claim 4, which depends upon claim 3, is patentable because claim 3 is patentable for the same reasons, as discussed above. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection to this claim is respectfully requested.

Furthermore, though the Examiner submitted that the steps d) and e) which are claimed in claim 4 are disclosed by Koster, the Applicant cannot understand how the MDN of Koster corresponds to the virtual origination number of the present invention. The MDN of Koster is assigned by the domestic (or IRS) HLR when reviewing the description of Koster (col. 3 lines 42-53, col. 5 lines 15-51), but the virtual origination number of the present invention is assigned by the MSC. Therefore, the MSC does not need to register the roamer to the visited HLR

(domestic(or IRS) HLR of Koster) for receiving a virtual origination number. Therefore, it is asserted that Koster does not disclose or suggest the virtual origination number of the present invention.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being anticipated by Houde et al. in view of Koster are respectively requested.

Since all objections and rejections have been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and such a notice is solicited.

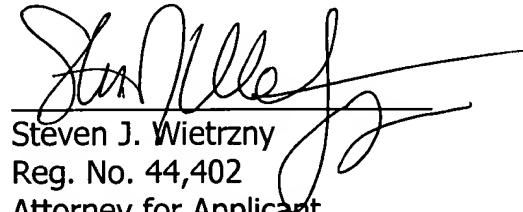
4. Fees

The amendments made herein have decreased the total number of claims and the number of independent claims. Since this response has been timely filed, no fees are believed due, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees deemed necessary to Deposit Account 17-0055.

Respectfully submitted,

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